AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)

2. (Previously Presented) An anastomotic apparatus for placing an inside edge surface of an incision in a first vessel in healing contact with an inside edge surface of an incision in a second vessel to establish flow between the vessels, said apparatus comprising:

a stiffening framework formed of a deformable material which causes the framework to remain in a second configuration after being deformed from a first configuration; and

means for attaching said stiffening framework to the vessels to hold the edge surfaces of the incisions in contact while permitting the framework to be shaped to define a flow path between the vessels.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The anastomotic ~~device~~ apparatus of claim 2, ~~defined in Claim 2~~ wherein said means for attaching are configured to orient the edge surfaces of the first and second

vessels to align the edge surfaces to join the first and second vessels ~~are~~ in side-to-side contact with each other.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 2, ~~defined in Claim 2~~ wherein said means for attaching are configured to orient the edge surfaces of the first and second vessels to align the edge surfaces to join the first and second vessels ~~are~~ in end-to-side contact with each other.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 2, ~~defined in Claim 2~~ further comprising a tool configured to be inserted into ~~including a blood flow defining means in~~ one of the ~~said~~ vessels to attach said means for attaching to the vessel, said tool comprising means for maintaining blood flow through the vessel when said tool is inserted is inserted into the vessel ~~while the inside edge of the one vessel is being placed in healing contact with the inside edge of the second vessel~~.

20. (Canceled)

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41. (Canceled)

42. (Canceled)

43. (Previously Presented) A method of performing an anastomosis comprising:

A) defining an incision in a first vessel;

B) defining an incision in a second vessel;

C) fastening a mounting structure on the first vessel in surrounding relationship to the incision in the first vessel;

D) fastening the mounting structure to the second vessel in surrounding relationship to the incision therein to bring peripheral surfaces of the incisions in the first and second vessels into healing contact while providing an open flow path between the vessels through the incisions; and

E) shaping the mounting structure to define a desired flow area between the first and second vessels.

44. (Canceled)

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70. (Canceled)

71. (New) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 2, further comprising a hemostatic medium positioned to contact the outside surfaces of the first and second vessels as the edge surfaces of the incisions are brought into contact.

72. (New) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 71, wherein said hemostatic medium comprises a cuff.

73. (New) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 72, wherein said cuff comprises a woven synthetic cuff.

74. (New) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 71, wherein said hemostatic medium comprises an oval-shaped flexible body.

75. (New) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 19, wherein said tool comprises an anvil.

76. (New) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 75, wherein said anvil is larger than the incision in the vessel into which it is inserted, said anvil configured to be button-holed into the vessel through the incision.

77. (New) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 2, wherein said stiffening framework comprises a single cuff and said means for attaching comprise vessel attaching elements extending from said single cuff and adapted to attach to the first and second vessels.

78. (New) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 77, further comprising bridging members

interconnecting first and second portions of said single cuff, said bridging members adapted to be manipulated to draw said first and second portions together to draw the edge surfaces of the incisions into contact.

79. (New) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 2, wherein said stiffening framework comprises first and second cuffs, said first cuff configured to be attached to the first vessel and said second cuff configured to be attached to the second vessel.

80. (New) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 79, wherein said first and second cuffs comprise mateable male and female connecting members, respectively, said male and female connectors adapted to mate to couple said cuffs together.

81. (New) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 80, wherein said male and female members form a friction fit with one another.

82. (New) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 79, further comprising rivets or staples for mechanically joining said cuffs together.

83. (New) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 2, wherein said stiffening framework is sinuous in shape and comprises a plurality of malleable sections.

84. (New) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 2, wherein said means for attaching comprise tissue retention pins.

85. (New) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 2, further comprising docking extensions extending from said stiffening framework, said docking extensions configured to be manipulated to deform said stiffening framework into said second configuration.

86. (New) The anastomotic apparatus of claim 78, wherein said bridging members comprise malleable wire.